

## Amendments to the Claims

1. A nucleic acid array comprising:  
a solid support; and  
a plurality of nucleic acid probes attached to the solid support at discrete locations, wherein at least one of the probes is an alien probe in that it has a sequence that is alien to a hybridizing mixture to be hybridized to the array.
2. The nucleic acid array of claim 1, wherein the hybridizing mixture comprises nucleic acids from a source selected from the group consisting of human mRNA, human cDNA, mouse cDNA, mouse mRNA, and combinations thereof.
3. The nucleic acid array of claim 1, wherein the alien probe is present in each discrete location on the solid support.
- 4-13. (Canceled)

Applicant thanks the Examiner for careful consideration of this case. Please charge any fees that may be associated with this matter, or credit any overpayments, to our Deposit Account No. 03-1721.

Respectfully submitted,



Brenda Herschbach Jarrell, Ph.D.  
Reg. No.: 39,223

Choate, Hall & Stewart LLP  
Patent Department  
Two International Place  
Boston, MA 02110  
Tel: (617) 248-5000  
Fax: (617) 248-4000  
Dated: May 3, 2006